

## **French Limited, Inc.**

*Post-Hurricane Harvey conditions of groundwater and soil at the French Limited Superfund site are consistent with historical site conditions that existed before the hurricane made landfall.*

On September 13, 2017, groundwater and soil samples were collected and analyzed to evaluate the potential effects from Hurricane Harvey. A groundwater sample was analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and metals. No VOCs were detected in the groundwater sample. Chromium and lead were detected at a concentration below the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) in the groundwater sample. A soil sample was analyzed for VOCs and no VOCs were detected in the soil sample. These results are consistent with the results from historic sampling and indicate that the remedy is operating as intended.

The 22.5-acre Site is located in northeast Harris County, Texas, about two miles from Crosby, TX. In the 1950s and 1960s, the Site was used as a sand quarry. Sand was produced by hydraulic dredging, which resulted in the formation of an 8-acre lagoon. Between 1966 and 1972, the Texas Water Commission permitted French Limited, Inc. (FLI), the company that owned the property, to accept industrial waste material. The firm received an estimated 90 million gallons of chemical waste, transforming the sand pit (surrounded by a dike) into a waste lagoon. Groundwater in the shallow aquifer (Upper Aquifer Unit) underneath the Site is heavily contaminated by the leaching action of organic wastes deposited in the main waste pit. The aquifer consists of two shallow groundwater bearing units. The S1 water bearing unit exists from about 15 feet below ground surface to about 30 feet below ground surface and the INT is from about 35 feet to 55 feet below ground surface. The Site is located in the less-developed eastern portion of Harris County. The surrounding area is primarily undeveloped and includes dense woods and swamps. A residential subdivision (the Riverdale community) is located immediately southwest of the Site. It is the only residential development near the Site. As of 2014, there are no drinking water wells within the proposed Technical Impracticability (TI) Boundary (see section II for more information). The Site is situated 1 mile east of the San Jacinto River, within the 100-year floodplain, and has flooded frequently in the past. The construction completion date was 6/19/1996.

The Fifth Five Year Review was completed on September 7, 2017. EPA is responsible for reviewing Superfund remedial actions at least every five years where hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants will remain on site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) requires that EPA report to Congress regarding these sites.